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the type which lawyers ordinarily consult. But the work will be exceedingly useful to lawyers having litigation in this field, and will be a great time saver in view of the complete collection of authorities on the subject. It is in fact the only work in its field. The work serves a dual purpose and the author discusses the policy of various provisions of the constitutions and statutes as freely as he analyzes the decisions.

Paul J. Bickel.

CRIMINALITY AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. By WILLIAM ADRIAN BONGER. Translated by Henry P. Horton. Boston: LITTLE, BROWN & Co. 1916. pp. xxi, 706.

This book makes a somewhat exhaustive study of criminality and the relation between criminality and economic conditions, and impresses the reader at the outset with its wealth of information and detail. While an American reader may not agree with many of the deductions made by Dr. Bonger, nevertheless the work should prove of value to students of sociology, of criminal conditions and the like.

The first half of the book is given over to a review of the works of those who have already written on the subject and contains some valuable criticisms of the various works that have gone before. The American reader doubtless will not agree with all the criticisms made by Dr. Bonger any more than he will feel able to agree with his deductions in the second half of the book. Nevertheless the review of these various authorities is very exhaustive, and the criticisms are evidently based upon a thorough study and wide experience.

Part II of the book treats of the present economic system, its consequences and its effect upon and relation to criminality. This part of the work is the more interesting. The first criticism that an American reader would make is that Dr. Bonger considers social conditions from the point of view of a socialist, and finds the source of all evil in the existence of wealth and capital and the relationship between capital and labor.

The attitude of the author is shown quite clearly in the following quotation:

"Human labor thus has become a commodity corresponding exactly to definition: First, it has no use-value for the possessor if he has not the means of production, and, on the other hand, has such a value for the person possessing these means: Second, the possessor of labor has the free disposition of it."

Another quotation:

"The so-called 'reserve army of labor' is a condition indispensable to capitalism—without it the power of organized labor would become so great, that the surplus value would run serious danger. It is just because the supply of labor exceeds the demand that the power of the capitalist over the workman is so great and also that it happens so often that the interests of the workman are thwarted."

In view of the recent intervention of our Congress in the differences between the railroads and their employees through the enactment of the Eight Hour Law, the following quotation is interesting:

"As regards the length of the working day; moderate work is a pleasure, excessive work mere torment. Except in so far as the laws

and the labor unions have intervened, the day has been prolonged until there is left only the time absolutely necessary for food and sleep."

As the President of the United States stated at the time that he signed the Eight Hour Law, the American people have come to believe that the ordinary day's work for any individual should be eight hours, and this conclusion of the American people is due neither to force nor to necessity.

One who is familiar with the conditions of the American laboring man, with his home life and surroundings, with his honesty and industry, is unwilling to agree with the author's conclusion that the laboring man's family is less moral than that of the wealthy man.

The classifications made by Dr. Bonger of the different social conditions is not applicable to conditions found in this country. The American laboring man of honesty and of industry has an opportunity to bring up a family with a fair amount of education. Our American system of public schools, the opportunities to acquire education at evening schools while employed during the day, and the encouragement and support given to one who is seeking an education, argues against the assumptions of Dr. Bonger.

The illustrious example that we have of a man born of parents possessing neither wealth nor education who became President of the United States, argues as to what may be accomplished.

We cannot read this book without being convinced that environment does indeed play a large part in the matter of criminality; but it is more difficult to agree that criminality is due in any large measure to our present economic system, or that community of the means of production would be a panacea for these evils.

The book is indeed interesting and valuable, if for no other reason than its mass of statistics and detail.

Arthur F. Driscoll.

THE LAW OF ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING. By CLINTON H. BLAKE, Jr. New York: WILLIAM T. COMSTOCK Co. 1916. pp. xxxviii, 314.

This book by Clinton H. Blake, Jr., of the New York and Federal Bars, with a special introduction by Aymar Embury II, member of the American Institute of Architects, is a very readable statement of the elementary rules of building contracts, together with a brief discussion of the general principles governing the liens of the architect, contractor and sub-contractor. Both lawyers and architects will find it interesting and well worth while as general reading, from the introduction, with its layman's frank confession of ignorance of the law, to the appendix with its decisions for reference reading and its canons of ethics of the American Institute of Architecture.

No author could in the 180 odd pages (exclusive of introductions and appendices) discuss the entire subjects of builders' and architects' contracts and liens with sufficient detail to be of any practical help to the lawyer of a particular state. Eight pages to the lien of a contractor, eight pages to the lien of a sub-contractor, five and one-half pages to the requisites of a construction contract, and so on, cannot compass more than the elementary principles which any practicing attorney is presumed to know. The discussions of liquidated damage clauses, of clauses which do or do not oust the courts of their juris-